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2 DWIGHT F. RITTER, ESQ. (STATE BAR #127030)  
3 RITTER & ASSOCIATES  
4 2869 INDIA STREET  
5 SAN DIEGO, CA 92103  
(619) 296-0123

**FILED**  
**DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM**

6 Attorney for Plaintiffs  
7 ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC

OCT 19 2007 *hbc*

**JEANNE G. QUINATA**  
**Clerk of Court**

9 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

10 **FOR THE TERRITORY OF GUAM**

11 TCW SPECIAL CREDITS, et al. ) Case No. 96-00055  
12 )  
13 Plaintiffs, ) **NOTICE OF LIEN**  
14 )  
15 v. )  
16 FISHING VESSEL CHLOE Z, )  
et al., )  
17 Defendants. )  
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18 TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD,  
19 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Ritter & Associates and Dougherty &  
20 Hildre, APC have a specific lien against any and all proceeds in  
21 this matter, relating to compensation received by ROBERT MATOS  
22 and SLOBODAN PRANJIC, including, but not limited to,  
23 settlements, judgments, prejudgments interest and post-judgment  
24 interest, and any other compensation decided by this Court.

25 Ritter & Associates and Doherty & Hildre APC have  
26 represented ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC under a  
27 contingency fee contract since approximately 1991. During these  
28 16+ years, Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre APC have

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2 engaged in extensive pretrial litigation, tried four cases  
3 before the District Court, participated in a post-appeal  
4 evidentiary hearing, represented ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN  
5 PRANJIC four times before the Ninth Circuit and one time before  
6 the United States Supreme Court.  
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8 On or about September 6, 2007, Ritter & Associates received  
9 notice of a letter from ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC (dated  
10 September 4, 2007) discharging Ritter & Associates and selecting  
11 attorney Jeffrey A. Cook in Guam as their new counsel. This  
12 letter also indicated Ritter & Associates should communicate  
13 with Banning, Micklow and Bull regarding documents related to  
14 their cases. Ritter & Associates is diligently working to  
15 transmit all appropriate information to Banning, Micklow & Bull,  
16 including matters which are still pending before both the  
17 District Court and the Ninth Circuit in these cases.  
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19 Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre, APC have a lien  
20 in the amount of the reasonable value of their services or the  
21 established contingency fee which is due immediately upon the  
22 occurrence of any contingency contemplated by the retainer  
23 agreements signed by ROBERT MATOS and SLOBODAN PRANJIC. In  
24 addition, Ritter & Associates and Dougherty & Hildre, APC claim  
25 a lien for the full amount of costs, expenses, and advances made  
26 on behalf of MATOS and PRANJIC over the past 16+ years, which  
27 currently is at least \$ 813,214.19 and includes costs advanced  
28 by Dougherty & Hildre APC.

29 Documents which support the lien for attorney's fees and  
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2 costs, expenses, advances, etc., have been or will be  
3 transmitted to Banning, Micklow & Bull.  
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5 **Ritter and Associates request notice and the opportunity to**  
6 **be heard, prior to any distribution of funds from the Court's**  
7 **Registry.**

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9 Respectfully submitted:  
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11 RITTER & ASSOCIATES  
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15 DATED: 10/12, 2007  
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17 DWIGHT F. RITTER, Esq.  
18 Attorney for Plaintiffs,  
19 ROBERT MATOS and  
20 SLOBODAN PRANJIC  
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